



36TH NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES



STRIVE

LIVE

CONQUER

REGISTRATION PACKET

**SALT
LAKE
CITY**

JUNE 27 – JULY 2, 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

wheelchairgames.org



WheelchairGames



#NVWG

CO-PRESENTED BY:



VA | U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



Paralyzed Veterans
of America

ABOUT THE GAMES

Join fellow veterans at the 36th National Veterans Wheelchair Games (NVWG) on June 27–July 2, 2015 in Salt Lake City, Utah. These Games will be hosted by the VA Salt Lake City Health Care System and the Mountain States Chapter of Paralyzed Veterans of America. Official events are air pistols, air rifle, archery, basketball, boccia, bowling, field, handcycling, motor rally, nine ball, power soccer, quad rugby, slalom, softball, swimming, table tennis, track, trapshooting, and weightlifting.

ELIGIBILITY

Participation in the NVWG is open to veterans having spinal cord injuries, amputations, multiple sclerosis, or other neurological conditions who require a wheelchair for athletic competition, and who are eligible to receive care at a VA medical facility. When a veteran's diagnosis and eligibility to compete is in question, we will refer to the eligibility criteria appropriate for that person to participate in other community wheelchair sports organizations.

NEW FOR 2016

- All events with rule changes will have an asterisk by their name in the Events & Rules booklet.
- **Cycling:** 3-wheeled foot recumbents will be allowed and will compete as one class.
- **Boccia:** Added for classes II-V.
- **Weightlifting:** Para-class bench press changing to Powerlifting. See Event & Rules Book for description.
- **Triathlon:** Triathlon will be offered as an exhibition event. For the road race portion, sports chairs are allowed.
- The 800 Biathlon will be an exhibition event.
- Breakfast will be on your own and added into your meal card.

REGISTRATION

Deadline: April 15, 2016

All athletes, coaches, and caregivers who are VA employees must register by submitting the attached registration forms, postmarked on or before April 15, 2016. All forms, including a copy of a VA ID card must be completed and submitted to 36th NVWG Registration, c/o VA Puget Sound HCS, 1660 South Columbian Way, Seattle, WA 98108. Incomplete forms will automatically be returned if any of the following information is missing:

- VA ID Card (Form C)
- Physician Clearance (Form D)
- Damage Provisions Signature Page (Form F)
- Waiver and Release of Liability (Form G)

Registration is limited to 550 athletes. Completed registration forms are accepted in the order they are received, with priority given to novice athletes after the first 500 entries.

One coach per five athletes may register by completing all the appropriate information on the registration forms. **The coach must submit a complete list of athletes with the registration forms.** All registration deadlines apply to coaches and athletes.

Athlete and coach registration information will be stored in the Games database for purposes of historical information.

DO NOT SCHEDULE CONFLICTING EVENTS!

Conflicting Events:

Table Tennis (IA,IB,IC), Softball
Quad Rugby, Softball
Archery, Slalom (II, V), 9-Ball (II,V)

For VA employees using VA travel to attend the NVWG, one VA coach may register up to 5 novice and/or experienced athletes with established rehabilitation goals relevant to their participation at the NVWG. VA caregivers, such as VA nurses, are permitted to support only those veterans meeting this criteria. We recognize that the level of care determines the staffing ratio and leave that determination to the individual VAMC, although this may be reviewed and justification required. Registration is required for both VA caregivers and coaches.

Athletes needing a caregiver must arrange that support on their own. NVWG Medical Staff is not available to provide attendant support.

COMPETITIVE DIVISIONS

Athletes may select only one division for all events. Athletes must choose either the manual or powerchair event in slalom. Participation in both will not be allowed.

Novice: Veteran who participated for one year or less in a wheelchair sporting event and has never participated in the National Veterans Wheelchair Games.

Open: All competitors who have competed in sanctioned wheelchair sports competition or past NVWG.

Masters: Competitors who are 40–59 years old may compete in the Masters Division, or they may choose to compete in the Open Division.

Senior: Competitors who are 60 and older may compete in the Seniors Division, or they may choose to compete in the Open Division.

EVENT RULES

The attached Events & Rules booklet contains a description of each event and a summary of its rules and equipment policy. Please note all events with rule changes are indicated by * next to the name of the event.

Athletes registering for air rifles or trapshooting for the first time must establish a shooting time at registration. Early registration is available for air rifle and pistols on June 26, 2016 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Calvin L. Rampton Salt Palace Convention Center, Hall 2, and for both at the Disabled Sports, Recreation & Fitness Expo June 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Convention Center.

Ramp bowling is limited to veterans who demonstrate a physical need to use a ramp (e.g., hand, muscle involvement). All veterans wishing to ramp bowl who have not gone through classification before must go through classification for verification.

To ensure every competitor adequate playing time, the following events have a maximum number of competitors.

Archery: 90 total competitors

Basketball: 8 teams, 12 players per team
(96 total competitors)

Power Soccer: 8 teams, 8 players per team
(64 total competitors)

Quad Rugby: 4 teams, 10 players per team
(40 total competitors)

Softball: 8 teams, 15 players per team
(120 total competitors)

Trapshooting: 2 squads, 30 per squad
(60 total shooters)

Air Pistol: 60 total competitors

SPORT CLINICS

Cycling Tune-Up (Optional): Maintenance such as air levels in tires and shifting lessons will be offered
Tuesday, June 28, 6:30 p.m., Convention Center, Hall 4

Power Soccer Clinic (Optional):
Monday, June 27, 1 p.m., Convention Center, Hall F

Basketball & Quad Rugby Clinics (Optional):
Monday, June 27, 1 p.m., Convention Center, Hall F

Educational Sessions Convention Center:

Topics to be determined.

*Tuesday, June 28 & Friday July 1, 11:30 a.m.,
Convention Center, Room 254B.*

Table Tennis Clinic (Optional):

*Sunday, June 26 & Monday, June 27, 1 p.m.,
Convention Center, Hall 1*

Power Lifting Clinic:

Monday, June 27, 1 p.m., Convention Center, Hall 1

CLOSING CEREMONIES & CELEBRATION

The Department of Veterans Affairs and Paralyzed Veterans of America will host the Closing Ceremony Saturday, July 2, 2016. Athletes attend at no cost. Price of the Closing Celebration will be \$20 each for all others attending.

Do not send money for tickets with your registration form. Tickets may be purchased by cash, check, or credit card during the week from Stacy Kulig. Please contact your coach for your seat assignment. All athletes not assigned to a team, please contact Stacy Kulig for more information at stacyk@pva.org.

FORMS FOR PUBLICITY

Please complete the attached VA Form 10-3203 (Form H-1 in this packet), Consent for Production and USE of Written Statements, Photographs, Digital Images, and/or Video or Audio Recordings by VA, which authorizes VA's public affairs staff to release your photograph and/or voice recordings to newspapers, radio stations, television stations and any other media outlets to promote your participation in this event. It also allows VA to contact your local media, include you in newsletter stories and prepare feature profiles or articles on selected athletes.

If you wish us to publicize your participation in this event, your signature is required on this form, which must be filled out completely.

SALT LAKE CITY CLIMATE & WEATHER

The city averages between 85–90° F for a high, with a low of 65–70° F in June, with a low potential for rain and low humidity. Drink plenty of water before and during your trip to help your body adjust to the humidity.

Eat foods high in potassium, such as broccoli, bananas, avocado, cantaloupe, celery, greens, bran, chocolate, granola, dates, dried fruit, potatoes, and tomatoes.

Remember Essentials: Medications in carryon luggage, sun screen, lip balm, sunglasses, and other skin protection items.

TRANSPORTATION

Ground transportation will be provided to and from SLC International Airport and hotels Sunday, June 26, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m., and Monday, June 27, 2016 from 8 a.m. to noon. Departures from hotels to airport Sunday, July 3, 2016, will run from 3 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Arrivals and departures outside of these times will not be supported by NVWG transportation and are the responsibility of the participant.** For veterans driving to Salt Lake City, no NVWG dedicated parking will be available and individuals will be responsible for their own parking and associated fees.

Airline flight numbers and arrival/ departure times must be provided by April 15, 2016, so transportation can be arranged.

Public transportation (UTA) is available directly from the airport to some hotels.

ATTENTION TEAM COACHES/COORDINATORS

Please ensure that all of your team members use the same team name. Be sure each member of your team has team contact information on his or her forms. Make sure that team members list their PVA chapter affiliations (if applicable).

MEALS

A meal debit card program will be used for the 36th NVWG. The amount placed on the card is based on the government per diem rate, minus other meals provided by the NVWG, such as the Block Party hosted by the Veterans Canteen Service and Closing Celebration hosted by PVA. Breakfast will be on your own and breakfast per diem will be added on your meal card. The final amount will be communicated in the athlete confirmation. Competitors and non-VA qualified coaches may pick up meal debit cards during registration June 27, 2016 at the last stop of the Disabled Sports, Recreation & Fitness Expo.

The meal debit card can only be used for food and NONALCOHOLIC beverages. Audits are conducted and inappropriate charges may result in the revocation of the card.

In compliance with VA Financial Policies and Procedures, VA coaches and VA caregivers will need to be on VA travel. If the VA employee is receiving donated funding support for travel or per diem, please remember to submit VA Form 0893 for approval to receive donated travel support through his or her local station. The NVWG meal debit card cannot be used by VA employees.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

There are five official hotels for athletes this year. Additional information about how to make reservations will be posted on our website in January. Transportation will only be provided to/from the Official Games Hotels and the Airport. You are strongly encouraged to stay at an Official Games Hotel to take advantage of the benefits offered such as transportation and networking.

Room Rate: \$108 per night, not including local, state, and federal taxes (based on double occupancy). There may be an additional charge for a roll-away.

Multiple Reservations & Team Billing: Additional information will be available in January. Please check the website.

Hotel Policy: Cancellations must be made directly with the hotel and an e-mail sent to PVA meetings.

Specific cancellation requirements will be provided as hotels are assigned. Check-in is 3 p.m. and check-out is noon.

MEDICINE AND EQUIPMENT

Bring all medications and medical supplies with you in your carry-on luggage. Do not pack medicines in checked luggage, as luggage can be lost or damaged.

Bring any assistive devices, specialty devices, and any other specialty equipment with you, as a limited amount of such equipment will be available to novice athletes first, then on a first-come, first-served basis. Check with the airport for the latest regulations about carry-on items.

Service Animals: Athletes with service animals are responsible for the care and behavior of the dog. Personal pets are not allowed. Please also include this information when making your flight reservations so the airline can make arrangements as necessary.

ATHLETE CLASSIFICATION

Athletes who require classification will be given a medical exam and classified to ensure fair competition among those with similar degrees of disability.

Quadriplegics will be classified into three classes (IA, IB, IC) and paraplegics into four (II, III, IV, V). Amputees will be classified based on the level of amputation. Disabilities arising from stroke, multiple sclerosis, or other conditions will be classified based on level of impairment.

A physician must complete the Physical Exam Forms (C & D) for an athlete to be eligible to register and compete. Any application without the required completed forms will be returned and must be resubmitted by the registration deadline.

Classification will be completed during the Early Classification on June 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Convention Center, Hall 2, and at the Disabled Sports, Recreation & Fitness Expo June 27 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Convention Center. Air Rifle/Pistol Classification will be held on both days. Only competitors with a NVWG classification that is permanent or less than three years old will be

exempt from onsite classification. **Reexamination and reclassification may be performed at the discretion of the NVWG Athlete Classification Team.**

QUESTIONS?

Registration:

Paralyzed Veterans of America
Sports and Recreation Program
800.424.8200, ext. 752 or 657
9 a.m.–5 p.m. Eastern Time, M–F
www.pva.org/sports

Hotel Accommodations:

Hannah Buchholz
Paralyzed Veterans of America
HannahB@pva.org

